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# Frank Holten

STATE PARK

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



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# CONSERVATION

## THE PARK

Located within sight of St. Louis' Gateway Arch, Frank Holten State Park is an urban park almost entirely surrounded by East St. Louis. The 1,125-acre park features an 18-hole golf course and facilities for fishing, picnicking, and other outdoor recreational activities.

The park was established in 1964 and named Grand Marais. On May 1, 1967, the name was changed to Frank Holten State Park, in honor of the late distinguished legislator from East St. Louis. First elected in 1916, Holten served 48 years in the Illinois General Assembly. He died in December, 1966 at the age of 98.

## NATURAL SCENE

In addition to the lakes and facilities located at Frank Holten, the park features a diversity of plant and animal life. Shade and decorative trees include Scotch pine, maple, oak, poplar, sycamore, ginko, tulip, red bud, sweet gum, and wild cherry. Water lily, lilac, arrowhead, bridal wreath, honeysuckle bush, and mock orange are some of the blossoming flowers and bushes. Many common wildlife species may be viewed in the park, such as rabbit, squirrel, raccoon, fox, groundhog, muskrat, and mink.

## FACILITIES

**Picnicking** — Frank Holten has one of the largest day use areas in the surrounding area. The park area consists of picnic shelters, barbecue pits, sanitation facilities, and drinking fountains. The facility can accommodate up to 2,000 patrons per day with adequate parking for all.

**Concession Stand** — A variety of refreshments are offered, including sandwiches, snack items, and soft drinks. The stand is located in the golf clubhouse.

**Fishing** — Frank Holten has two lakes — Wispering Willow Lake and Grand Marais Lake — with a combined water surface of 208 acres and five miles of shoreline. Wispering Willow Lake was rehabilitated in 1983 and stocked with largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish. Grand Marais Lake, currently being rehabilitated, will be open for fishing in 1988. Boat and bank fishing is allowed, but boat anglers must use trolling motors or motors no larger than 10 horsepower. Daily creel and length limits are in effect for some sport species. Anglers are advised to check with the site superintendent for any special regulations before fishing.

**Boating** — There are not boat rentals at Frank Holten. Boat launch ramps are available on Wispering Willow and Grand Marais lakes.



**Recreation** — Frank Holten has an 18-hole golf course, named Grand Marais. The park also offers a combined football-soccer field, a cross-country track, basketball and tennis courts, and baseball diamonds.

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Groups of 25 or more persons will not be admitted to any state site unless permission from the site superintendent has been obtained. In addition, groups of minors must have adequate supervision, and at least one responsible adult must accompany each group of 15 minors. All pets must be on a leash.

Numerous state sites are within easy access of every part of Illinois. Lodges, cabins, and dining rooms are important features of Illinois Beach, Starved Rock, Pere Marquette, and Giant City; White Pines Forest and Cave-In-Rock have cabins and dining rooms only. Reservations for lodging should be made with lodge managers.

Most state sites are open year round, except on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. When weather conditions necessitate the closing of roads during freezing and thawing periods, access to facilities is by foot only.

For more information about this site, contact Site Superintendent, Frank Holten State Park, 4500 Pocket Rd., East St. Louis, IL 62005, phone (618) 874-7920. For information on other Illinois recreation areas, write the Department of Conservation, Division of Land Management, 524 South Second Street, Springfield, IL 62706.



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# FRANK HOLTEN STATE PARK

## FACILITIES KEY

- ▲ Picnic Shelter
- Sanitary Facilities
- Basketball / Multi-Use Court
- ▤ Multi-Use Field
- Structure / Buildings
- ⌂ Parking Areas

